

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1921  
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2012  
PROMOTION OF GENERIC DRUGS  
Kumar Shri Shailendra

**Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:**

- (a) the steps taken by the Union Government to promote generic medicines during the last three years;
- (b) whether the Union Government has provided any financial assistance to the State Governments for promotion of generic medicines during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) if so, the State-wise details thereof including for Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand;
- (d) whether the Union Government proposes to set up storage of generic medicines in rural areas of various States including Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

(a) One of the steps taken by the Government of India, Department of Pharmaceuticals for promoting the generic drugs in the country was by launching the Jan Aushadhi Campaign in November, 2008 by way of opening of the Jan Aushadhi Drug Stores in the Government Hospitals. Under this campaign, at least one Jan Aushadhi Store in each district of the country is to be opened initially followed by five Jan Aushadhi stores in each district. The objective of the, government through this campaign is to make available quality generic medicines at affordable prices for all.

Besides above Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has issued directions to Govt. Hospitals to ensure prescription by their specialists/doctors to prescribe generic medicines to the maximum extent possible.

(b) & (c) Yes, Sir. In order to promote the Jan Aushadhi campaign and to incentivize the operating agencies which open the Jan Aushadhi stores, a one-time financial assistance to the extent of Rs. 2,50 lakhs per store in the form of grant is provided by the Govt. of India to the operating agency managing such stores in the State concerned to meet the expenditure on the infrastructural facilities and the start up cost required for opening of the store. The State Govt. has to provide the space for opening of Jan Aushadhi Outlets and recommend the name of operating agency to run the outlet. The State-wise details available with the Department on financial assistance provided during the years 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 is annexed. As regards Uttar Pradesh, no Jan Aushadhi store has been opened in the state so far. However, the efforts are continuously on to open Jan Aushadhi stores in Uttar Pradesh so as to provide access to the availability of quality generic medicines at affordable prices to the people.

(d) to (f) As stated in (a) above, in the initial phase, the proposal is to cover all the districts in the country to setup storage of generic medicines.